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An examination of the above pedigree shows that all statements are verified by reference to the wills, registers and deeds. A doubt may arise in the minds of some as to the identity of Will'm Plesants 1583 of St. Paul's Norwich with William Plesannce husband of Katherine Plesannce¹ 1558 of All Saints, Norwich. Reference to the latter's will shows that her husband is left in unrestricted possession of the All Saint's dwelling only during the minority of his son Robert², and that he probably moved to St. Paul's parish about the time of his second marriage. The ownership of property in both parishes by Robert² seems to settle the question of identity, in connection with the other evidence.

It is regretted that a careful search of the Norwich records prior to 1550 with a view to carrying back the pedigree further was not practicable. The indices of wills prior to this date are very defective, in many cases being under Christian names only. It seems quite possible that Will'm Plesants¹ might be traced back in descent from William Plesannce, brewer 33 Henry VI (1454) mentioned in Rye's "Calendar of Freeman of Norwich," which is the earliest mention of the name found.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL NOTES AND QUERIES.

ERRATA.—In the memoir of the late Joseph Bryan, published in the April magazine, the following corrections should be made: on p. iv, l. 1 of note, for "grandson" read "son;" on p. vii, omit "(who in time married Col. Scriven of Georgia)" on l. 5 of note; on p. viii, l. 2 of note omit the comma after Navy; on p. xxiv, l. 16 insert "the" before "lot."

SCARBOROUGH.

The following extract from a list of "Grants and Certificates of Arms," in the *Genealogist* (xxv, 249) throws light on the Virginia family of Scarborough: "Scarburgh, Henry, John and Edmund, sons of Henry Scarburgh of North Walsham, Co. Norfolk, confirmation of arms and grant of crest, 10 Sept. 1614, or, a chevron, between 3 towers gules. Crest: From a mural coronet gules, a demi-lion or, supporting a spear erect, on the point a Saracen's head all ppr., the latter wreathed argent and azure. Add. Ms. 12, 225." It is pretty clear that the Edmund Scarborough here mentioned was the Virginia emigrant. Further evidence is afforded by the records of the Provincial Court of Maryland (Lib. P. C., fol. 52-53). 16 October, 1668, Henry Scarborough of Norwalsham in the County of Norfolk, Gent., gives letter of attorney to Edmund Scar-

borough the elder of Accomac in Virginia, Esq., and Charles Scarborough of the same place, Gent., to receive all debts due him in Maryland or Virginia, &c. Witnesses: Robert Pitt, James Weedon. 1 April, 1671, Charles Scarborough of Accomack als. Northampton in the Colony of Virginia, Gent., attorney of Henry Scarborough of Norwalsham in the County of Norfolk, in England, gives power of attorney to Daniel Jenifer of the Province of Maryland, Gent. Witnesses: Thomas Adams, George Kirkam, Mary Williams.

CHRISTOPHER JOHNSTON, Baltimore, Md.

EXTRACTS FROM THE RECORDS OF ELIZABETH CITY COUNTY.

Deed, June 18, 1760, from John Tabb, Sr., Robert Armistead, Cary Selden, Charles Jenings, John Tabb, Jr., Starkey Robinson, George Wray, James Wallace, David Wilson Curle, and Thomas Warrington, gentlemen, trustees of Eaton Charity School, to Thomas Barnes, a tract of land for a yearly rent of £4 10., Barnes to build a 25 foot frame house, plant an orchard of 100 Erixa apple trees, &c.

Deed, July 15, 1760, from John Tabb, Cary Selden, Charles Jenings, John Tabb, the younger, Starkey Robinson, George Wray, James Wallace, David Wilson Curle, and Thomas Warrington, trustees of Syms Charity School, to George Wythe, conveying the land and 11 head of black cattle for a yearly rent of £31 5., current money of Virginia.

[The Syms school was founded in 1635 and the Eaton in 1659. Their endowments are now represented by the Syms-Eaton Academy, the handsome high school of Hampton, Va.]

Deed, May 2, 1763, from Robert Tucker, Jr., of Norfolk Co., and St. Bridges [Bride's] parish, and Elizabeth his wife, and Susanna Tucker, of Elizabeth City Co., conveying to Thomas Dixon, 130 acres on Salfords Creek, Elizabeth City Co., adjoining the land lately belonging to Anthony Tucker, 100 acres of said land having been purchased by William Tucker, father of the said Robert.

Inventory of Col. John Tabb, recorded April, 1762, 5 large maps £3, 1 small do. 2s. 6d., 1 silver hilted sword & belt £3, 1 brass hilted sword 7sh. 6d., 1 Clock £8, 1 shagreen case with two dozen knives and forks with ivory handles £2, 1 large Bible 15s., 1 large Prayer book 6s., 2 large sermon books and 2 small books £1, 1 Vol. Josephus 2s. 6d., Body Va. Laws and Mercer's Abridgment £1 10., 7 Vols. History of England £1 6., 1 Turkish Spie 10s., a parcel Latin books and other books £1 7., The Universal Gazetteer 5sh., 1 doz. prints in frames £1 4., 1 Chariot and harness £100, 1 Char. and harness £16, &c., &c., a large estate.

Inventory of John Smith, Sr., Feb., 1723, 1 old pendulum clock £15, 1 silver watch and chain £3 10., silver £47 10., (including old lace, Spanish money, &c.) an interesting inventory.

Will of Anne Ellyson, dated June 1, 1727, proved July 19, 1727, all goods, &c., in Nansemond Co., to son John Ellyson, to Gerrard Ellyson "My maiden Bible," son Thomas Ellyson "My sister Myhill," "My brother Lockey Myhill."

Inventory of John Dunlep, July 17, 1728, Bayer's English Dictionary 4s., Latin Do. 7s. 6d., Baillee's English Dictionary 6s., Reversons Reformat. 2s., Treatie des Maladies, 2 vol. 3s., Keit's Anatomy 2s. 6d., 1 French Testament 2s. 6d., 1 Eng. Bible 1s. 6d., Blanchard's Phisical Dictionary 1s. 6d., Mawbray's Family Phisition 2s. 6d., 1 Latin Testam't 1s. 6d., Baxter's Treatise 6d., History of Abelard and Heloise 1s., Pharmica Edinbrigi 1s., 3 vols. Spect'or 4s., Operat. de Chirurg. 2 vol. 2s., Malades de Femmes 1s., Quincy's Dispensatory 6s., Handly's Coloquia Thorurgica 1s., Pielats Litteri, Walkers Memorie, Douglas history, Pope's Rape of the Lock, The Constant Couple, a tragedy, The Younger Brother, a comedy, Love for Love, Wilson's Sermons, all £2 6s., Catalogue Plants 2d., Le Caland delacene 10d.

Will of Nathan Yancey, dated Nov. 19, 1789, proved April 22, 1790. To nephew Nathan son of John Yancey and Elizabeth his wife; nephew Joel, son of Joel Yancey, and if they die without issue, devises his estate to the inhabitants of Back River, Greenland and Fox Hill [neighborhoods in Elizabeth City Co.] for the school for poor children in that precinct, "provided that no children of Baptist parents shall be allowed to go to the said school, & none but those that are of the Protestant Episcopal Church as now or may be established. The master to be obliged to attend his school from one hour by sun in the morning until one hour by sun at night."

EARLY DAYS OF ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY—EXTRACTS FROM THE COUNTY RECORDS.

Order Book 1, page 1, Commission of the peace to John Bowyer, Archibald Alexander, Samuel McDowell, Charles Campbell, Samuel Lyle, Alexander Stuart, Andrew Reid, John Trimble, and John Gilmore, gentlemen, justices.

April 7, 1778, Andrew Reid, gent., qualified as clerk.

Commission to Archibald Alexander as sheriff, who qualified.

John Bowyer, gent., produced in court a commission from his excellency the Governor of being County Lieutenant of this County, who took the oath required by law.

Samuel McDowell, gent., produced a Commission from his Excellency

the Governor of being Coll. of this County, who took the oath prescribed by law.

April 8, 1778, Alexander Stuart commissioned and qualified as Major.

April 13, 1778, trial of Capt. James Hall for being concerned in the murder of the Cornstalk Indian his son & two other chiefs of the Indians on the 10th of November last. Hall appeared & denied the facts with which he was charged. Trial adjourned; tried again on April 28 and no witness appearing against him he was acquitted.

April 28, 1778, trial of Hugh Galbraith on the same charge; but no witnesses appearing against him the case was postponed.

May 5, 1778, John Gilmore and James Hall qualified as Captains of Militia.

Charles Campbell, John Paxton, and John Lyle qualified as Captains of Militia.

May 5, 1778, Continuation of trial of Hugh Galbraith, no witnesses and therefore acquitted.

May 6, 1778, Andrew More qualified as Captain of Militia.

May 19, 1778, Trial of Malcolm McCown in regard to the murder of the Indians (above). No witnesses, acquitted.

July 7, 1778, David Cloyd 2d Lt., James Davis 2d Lt., Alexander Walker 2d Lt., Thomas Harrison Lt., John McClung, Robert Pooge, and Samuel Davison 2d Lts., qualified.

William Taylor and Andrew Evans, ensigns, qualified.

July 7, 1778, Trial of William Rowan in regard to the Indian murder, acquitted.

Aug. 4, 1778, David Edmondson and John Stuart, 1st Lts., John Willson 2d Lt., and John Carruthers 1st Lt., qualified.

Aug. 5, 1778, James Buchanan qualified as justice.

Sept. 1, 1778, Samuel Patterson 1st Lt., qualified.

Nov. 3, 1778, Joseph Alexander 1st Lt., and James Cunningham 2d Lt., qualified.

Dec. 2, 1778, Robert McKee 1st Lt., qualified.

March 2, 1779, Michael Bowyer qualified as an attorney.

May 4, 1779, John Gay qualified as an ensign.

James Hays and John Tedford qualified as ensigns.

May 5, 1779, James Buchanan recommended as Captain of Militia in the room of Captain Samuel Steele, resigned.

Company division of the county for taxation: Captains John Gilmore, Jr., John Paxton, William Paxton, ——— Wallace, ——— Hall, James Gilmore, ——— Gilliot, David Gray, John Lyle, ——— Moore, Charles Campbell.

Aug. 3, 1779, James Buchanan qualified as captain.

Aug. 5, 1779, On motion of William Moore assignee of James Frazier, John Jones, and William Butt to be allowed 50 acres each for serving as soldiers in the regular service in the Old Virginia regiment formerly

commanded by Col. Washington. Ordered, sufficient proof having been produced. [Counties did not, of course, grant land bounties; but certified to the State authorities that proper proof had been produced.]

The same, in favor of Smith Williamson, Henry Black, and Rich'd Williamson for service in Byrd's regiment.

The same, in favor of William Nappier, and Moses Collier for service in Capt. Dickinson's ranging Co.

(p. 127). The same in favor of Robert Edmondson assignee of Ambrose Gordon, who served in Byrd's regiment.

Oct. 5, 1779, The same in favor Josie East for service in Washington's regiment.

ENGLISH RECORDS RELATING TO VIRGINIA.

(From Report of Historical Manuscripts Commission. The Manuscripts of the Earl of Dartmouth, Vol. II.)

GEORGE MERCER TO THE KING.

1772, February 20, London. Copy of a memorial, with a memorandum that the Earl of Hillsborough has the original in his possession, requesting some reward for his services in North America during the late war.

Accompanied by a copy of another Memorial presented in June 1766 to the Lords of the Treasury, recounting what he had gone through on account of his employment in Virginia as distributor of stamps and desiring repayment for the expense he was obliged to incur.

3 pages and 1½ pages respectively, (p. 82).

[George Mercer a son of John Mercer of "Marlborough," Stafford county, Va.; served as Captain and Lieutenant Colonel in the French and Indian War, and being in England in 1765, was appointed one of the collectors under the Stamp Act.

Campbell's *History of Virginia*, doubtless quoting the *Virginia Gazette*, states that "In the last week of October [1765] George Mercer distributor of stamps for Virginia, landed at Hampton and was rudely treated by a mob, who by the interposition of some influential gentleman were prevailed on to desperse without offering him any personal injury. At Williamsburg, as he was walking toward the Capitol, on the way to the Governor's palace, he was required by several gentlemen from different counties, the General Court being in session, to say whether he intended to enter on the duties of his office. At his request he was allowed to wait on the Governor before replying, and was accompanied to the coffee-house, where the Governor, most of the Council, and many gentlemen were assembled. The crowd increasing and growing impatient in their demands, Mr. Mercer came forward and promised to give a categorical answer at five o'clock the next evening. At that time he met a large concourse of people, including the leading mer-

chants of the Colony. He then engaged not to undertake the execution of the Stamp Act until he received further orders from England, nor then, without the assent of the Assembly of Virginia. He was immediately borne out of the Capitol gate, amid loud acclamations, and carried to the coffee-house, where an elegant entertainment was prepared for him and was welcomed there by renewed acclamations, drums beating, and French horns and other musical instruments sounding, at night the bells were set a ringing and the town was illuminated."

The news of the acceptance of a position as Stamp Act Collector by a member of a well known Virginia family and one who had been in the military service and the legislature of the Colony, caused intense feeling. One of the manifestations of it was the burning of Col. Mercer in effigy at Westmoreland Court House. As this act was believed to have been chiefly instigated by Richard Henry Lee, who had been charged with applying for a position as Stamp Collector, the indignation of Mercer's brothers in Virginia was aroused and some angry correspondence appeared in the *Gazette* for 1768.

George Mercer's position in Virginia was probably not comfortable and he soon returned to England. As his estate consisted chiefly of Virginia lands, distant from the seaboard, he appears to have been reduced to great financial straits. Among the Adams papers in the collection of this Society are several letters from Col. Mercer which are curious as showing phases of life of a colonist in England. Thomas Adams, a Virginian, who was afterwards member of the Continental Congress, was for some years a merchant in London, seems to have been recipient of many appeals from his needy countrymen. The first is undated but was written in 1771:

"Thursday morning.

Dear Adams:

I want much to see you but find it so uncertain catching you at Home that to Day I can not attempt a visit. I expect my *good Friend* the E. of H. [Earl of Holderness] has made his report as he swore, tho' I know he can lye, it should be done Yesterday. If he has the affair will be *finished* on Monday or Tuesday next and he shall want all you can say about Stuart and the Cherokees, which I must pray you to write out as soon as you can conveniently.

My dear Adams you must by some means or other procure me £50 by Tuesday morning, or I must go to the Dogs. The note I mentioned to you formerly falls due on that day it has already been renewed about six Times and is in the Hands of a Lawyer who has sent me word he *can't* lay out of his money any longer, d—n the Fellows Conscience he has added 6s. 8d. for a Fee for writing to me besides Interest every Time it has been renewed, and yet yesterday sent to *remind* me of the notes falling due with the addition I mention & that I *must* take it up. I can't help troubling you Adams as necessity knows no law. I shall ask no more from you till Anderson arrives who I hope will bring me half a

hundred puncheons of Shanandoah [tobacco], which will *honestly* pay all my Debts. I know both you & B's poverty, and yet I cannot help, and I am sure you will both do me the Justice to believe I would not trouble if it was possible to avoid it. If you can by any means negotiate the note I send I shall be strong enough by the time it falls due, tho' at present I give you my oath I have not a Brace of pounds in the world nor do I know where to get Them unless you or Brown will help me. I am

Dr. Adams your most faithfully &c."

Mr. Adams appears to have raised the money, for not only does Col. Mercer escape the debtors toils, but a little later is adding to his troubles by trying to marry a young lady whose parents or guardians oppose the match. The next letter is addressed to "Mr. Thomas Adams No. 41 Fleet st. London," is written during the flight towards matrimony. It is dated "Yarmouth, 4 o'clock Tuesday the 6th of August, 1771." It is as follows:

"My dear Adams:

From the golden anchor at ——— we reached this place without any stop or accident, except the Post Chaise being once overturned & this occasioned after the first moment more laughing than crying. I expect to settle the affair here, and if the d—d marriage act throws no difficulties in the way, we shall be sure as Colonel Willis himself could be. * * * We are this moment only arrived here and mean to go six miles further to (perhaps to an old * * * of an Aunt) I can say nothing certain as to the Point so speedily, but I suppose even *you* can not doubt it must must be so now as this is an open and full Discovery of every Thing relative to her Partiality to your Friend, and through Detestation of the Friends of another Person. We sent the servant where she was to dine and spend some Days, to tell them we really meant to go, and told him we should wait his Return but as he had 15 miles to ride before he could deliver his message we presumed we had sufficient start of him, notwithstanding we rode all night to be sure of the matter.

I am obliged to be in town on Sunday if it is possible to settle this affair beyond Doubt, but as I have two bills amounting to £60 which fall due on Tuesday (for Fear of Disappointments) I must beg the favor of you to get me the money by Hook or by Crook for the interest Bills, and leave it with my House Keeper on Monday, as will not appear quite so decent should I be arrested on my Return Home with Madam, for such a sum as £60. Adieu till we meet, don't tell any one where I am or my Business, till I tell you the knot is tied and you must never mention a syllable of this scuffle to Maria, as she says she shall never be able to look any one except myself in the face who knows it. I am dear Adams

Your most Faithfully

G ——— M ———

I have told her I am writing to a particular Friend—She desires for Heaven's Sake and for the sake of my own character, that I will not mention to him that I have a giddy hot headed runaway young girl with me, especially if the friend has any thing serious about him."

There are a few other letters of dates close to the above referring to negotiations with the girl's family and begging to have bills negotiated or money lent, but nothing which tells of the termination of the affair. Col. Mercer, however, evidently found means to live on, as he did not die until 1784. See this Magazine, XIV, 232, for note on Mercer family.

How colonists spent their time during visits to England and what they learnt is a rather interesting subject, which has not been investigated.

It is feared that all did not keep as good company as Mr. Warrington.

There are letters in existence (Col. Mercer's are not referred to) which show that some of the colonists while "at home" could be not a little dissipated and could talk of "citizens" wives as coolly and contemptuously as any rake in an old comedy.

VIRGINIA.

1772, December 19. Council Chamber, Whitehall. Order of Committee of Council.

Signed. 1 folio page with seal (paper impressed over a wafer).

Endorsed: No. 3—*Virginia* Order of the Lords of the Committee of Council for plantation affairs, dated Dec'r 19, 1772, referring to this Board for their consideration an address of the House of Burgesses of Virginia to the King, praying that the Gove'r of that Colony may be permitted to assent to such laws as may check the importation of slaves from the coast of Africa into the said Colony. Cc. Rec'd Dec'r 23, 1772. Read Jan'y 25, 1773, (p. 113).

Annexed:

VIRGINIA HOUSE OF BURGESSES. ADDRESS TO THE KING [1772, about May 1]. *Desiring him to prevent the importation of slaves into this Colony.*

Copy 2 folio pages.

THE EARL OF DUNMORE TO THE EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH, 1772, May 1—*Williamsburg—The evil consequences of having so many slaves imported to the Colony and the desirability of passing laws to prevent this.*

Copy 2 folio pages.

[The originals of these annexed papers are in the Public Records Office, Amer. and W. Indies, Vol 210, pp. 91 and 95.]